



**An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt agus Athchóirithe Dlí
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND LAW REFORM**



MINISTERIAL BRIEFING

MARCH 2011

WORKING FOR A SAFER, FAIRER IRELAND

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MANAGING THE MANDATE

Department Structure and Staffing / Statutory Functions of Secretary General

The Secretary General of the Department, Mr Seán Aylward, is the senior civil servant and non-political head of the Department. The Secretary General is charged with the Department's day-to-day management and with its non-political strategic planning and direction. He is assisted by the Department's Management Advisory Committee, whose members are listed below.

The Secretary General is also the Department's Accounting Officer and in this capacity is personally responsible for safeguarding the funds under its control and the propriety of procurement and other financial transactions, as well as for economy and efficiency in the administration of the Department generally. The Commissioner of An Garda Síochána, the Chief Executive of the Property Registration Authority and the Chief Executive of the Courts Service are Accounting Officers for their Votes.

The Management Advisory Committee is chaired by the Secretary General and composed of the Assistant Secretaries and other senior officials who head up the following functions within the Department:

- **Asylum, Immigration and Citizenship** - [REDACTED] Director General, Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service (INIS)
- **Civil Law Reform, Courts Policy** - [REDACTED] Assistant Secretary
- **Crime, Security and Northern Ireland, Mutual Assistance and Extradition** - [REDACTED] Assistant Secretary
- **Criminal Law Reform, Prisons and Probation Policy** - [REDACTED] Assistant Secretary
- **EU/International Matters** - [REDACTED] Assistant Secretary
- **An Garda Síochána** - [REDACTED] Assistant Secretary
- **Human Resources, Corporate Services, Organisation Development, Finance, Procurement, Internal Audit and IT** - [REDACTED] Assistant Secretary
- **Irish Prison Service** - [REDACTED] Director General
- **Reception and Integration Agency (RIA)** - [REDACTED], Assistant Secretary
- **Youth Justice** - [REDACTED] Director, Irish Youth Justice Service
- **Cosc** - [REDACTED] Executive Director
- **Anti Human Trafficking** - [REDACTED], Director

There are approximately 350 staff working in the Head Office areas of the Department. In addition there are 179 staff working in Financial Shared Services and 628 staff working in the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service.

Internal Governance

The management team in the Department meets regularly. At these meetings important issues are discussed and longer-term discussions take place on critical issues. The Secretary General or senior management, on a constant basis brief the Minister on matters of public importance.

Governance of Associated Agencies

The Minister is politically responsible and accountable for all Justice Sector organisations of which there are now 23, each with specific administrative, regulatory or operational functions. These organisations employ a number of different governance arrangements but, broadly speaking, are divided between being statutorily independent or established on a non-statutory basis or as Executive Offices. (The Department has developed the Executive Office model to enable senior officials to lead and be identifiable in relation to national cross-cutting issues, for example domestic, sexual and gender-based violence (Cosc), Victims of Crime, anti-human trafficking and internet safety).

Through the Justice Steering Group, chaired by the Secretary General, structured arrangements are in place for the Minister and senior management to be kept informed of all important developments.

Project Oversight Arrangements

The Department of Justice and Law Reform must ensure that critical projects, such as the delivery of prison projects and major IT systems in the immigration area, are delivered on time and in the most cost effective manner possible. All major projects and developments are kept under review by a Project Oversight Board which is chaired by the Secretary General to ensure optimum delivery within agreed time frames and budgets. This Board meets twice yearly as a general rule.

Other Critical relationships/National Security and International dimension

The Secretary General and Assistant Secretary in charge of Security matters and, of course, the Garda Commissioner participate actively in the Committee on National Security, chaired by the Secretary General to the Government.

On the international front, the Minister and the Department manage the interests of Ireland in relation to Justice and Home Affairs matters by participating fully in the European Union, the Council of Europe and the United Nations among other international fora.

Public Service (Croke Park) Agreement

The aim of the modernisation programme in the Department of Justice and Law Reform is to support Justice Sector agencies in the development and delivery of the Department's mandate within allocated budgets and staffing resources (under the Employment Control Framework).

Under the Public Service Agreement, revised Action Plans were submitted to the Implementation Body in January 2011 in respect of the Department and all the Bodies in the Justice Sector. In general, they involve utilising technology, re-organising work practices and staffing flexibility to improve efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery, while staying within approved budgets.

In An Garda Síochána, the cumulative effect of the changes in work practices proposed (revised rosters, increased civilianisation, training and development, performance management, ICT strategy implementation, electronic payments/receipts) will be that the Garda Síochána will be in a position to maintain services to the community, albeit with reduced numbers. In the Prison Service, the Agreement provides for savings of €21 million through the development of a new staffing model, as well as the introduction of New Prison Grades and the introduction of schemes of Open and Accelerated Recruitment to deal with increases in prisoner numbers. The Courts Service Action Plan involves reducing the number of Court offices, greater use of technology and reorganising of work practices.

RESOURCE ALLOCATIONS FOR THE JUSTICE VOTE GROUP 2011

Finance

- The Justice Vote Group consists of 5 Votes- the Department of Justice and Law Reform, An Garda Síochána, Irish Prison Service, Courts Service and Property Registration Authority (PRA).
- The total gross allocation for the group in 2011 is €2.4 billion of which €2.32 billion relates to current expenditure and the balance of €80 million is capital expenditure.
- The breakdown between the votes is as follows:

Justice	€374 million
Garda	€1.53 billion
Prisons	€348 million
Courts	€111 million
Property Registration Authority	€37 million
TOTAL	€2.4 billion

- €1.8 billion or 77% of current expenditure relates to pay and pensions. There are currently in the region of 24,000 staff employed across the Justice Sector of which 14,364 are Gardaí. Under the Employment Control framework for the Sector it is envisaged that this number will be in the region of 23,000 by the end of 2011.

Financial challenges 2011

- As with all Vote Groups there has been a significant reduction in the financial resources available to the sector in recent years.
- Excluding an additional once-off increase in Garda pensions in 2011 the current expenditure allocation for the Group has been cut by over €80 million or 3.4% compared with the 2010 allocation.

Staffing Numbers

The breakdown of current staffing numbers in approximate terms across the Sector is as follows:

Justice and associated agencies	2,496
Garda (includes 2,079 civilians)	16,443
Prisons	3,547
Courts	1,004
Property Registration Authority	590

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

We have organised the work of the Department in terms of the following Strategic Priorities / High Level Goals:

Strategic Priority 1 - Supporting An Garda Síochána and Tackling Crime

Further advance law enforcement, crime prevention and community security by continuing structural and service reform of An Garda Síochána and through the development of effective anti-crime policies, the implementation and enforcement of effective and balanced laws and working to ensure visible policing of our communities.

Strategic Priority 2 - Developing Justice Services

Advance structural and service reforms of justice services - criminal and other - so as to enable the Department and the Justice Sector organisations implement their mandates in an integrated, effective and efficient manner.

Strategic Priority 3 - Provision of Immigration and Related Services

Implement Government commitments in relation to the provision of immigration and related services and update the legislative base in this area.

Strategic Priority 4 - Promotion of a Secure and Peaceful Society

Promote a secure and peaceful society and support the devolved institutions in Northern Ireland.

Strategic Priority 5 - Law Reform

Keep legislation under review and reform our laws - criminal and civil - as required, complete the programme of law reform contained in the Government's legislative programme and provide for improved regulatory systems.

Strategic Priority 6 - Business Delivery

Support the delivery of the Department's objectives through effective financial management and use of resources, including ICT, optimising staff performance and development, providing a high quality working environment for staff and customers and maintaining the necessary standards of corporate governance throughout the Justice Sector.

GARDA AND CRIME

RELEVANT DIVISIONS AND CONTACTS

Crime Divisions
Security & Northern Ireland Division
Mutual Assistance & Extradition Division
Anti Money Laundering Compliance Unit, White Paper on Crime Unit
Garda Division
Criminal Law Reform Division
International Policy Division
Victims of Crime Office
Cosc
Anti Human Trafficking Unit

Note – issues highlighted in red text reflect commitments under the Programme for Government 2011-2016

SECURITY AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Immediate/Urgent Issues

Terrorism

- The shared Garda/PSNI assessment is that the threat posed in Northern Ireland from dissident groups is severe and that they continue to target members of the security forces in Northern Ireland, particularly PSNI officers. In addition, the threat level in Britain from these groups has recently been revised upwards.
- International terrorism: while the threat to this jurisdiction from international terrorism is regarded as low, [REDACTED]

Smithwick Tribunal - The Smithwick Tribunal of Inquiry was established in May 2005 to inquire into allegations of collusion by Gardaí or other State employees in the murders of RUC Chief Supt. Harry Breen and Supt. Bob Buchanan by the IRA in 1989. The Tribunal has been in a private, investigative phase since early 2006 and we understand that it is due to begin its public hearings phase in the coming months. Tribunal costs to date are in region of €8 million.

Lawful Interception - The Minister will be briefed separately on this matter.

International bodies related to Northern Ireland

- The Independent International Commission on Decommissioning and Independent Monitoring Commission have completed their mandates and final reports are being prepared by both bodies to be delivered in March 2011. Arrangements are being made for the dissolution of both Commissions, in consultation with the British Government, by 31 March 2011.
- The International Commission for the Location of Victims Remains, set up to search for the remains of the 'disappeared', is expected to complete its work programme this year. It is intended that the Commission will remain in place for another year to receive and assess any further information on the location of remains that might be received.

Medium to Long Term Issues

Garda Vetting - There has been very considerable growth in demand for Garda employment vetting in recent years, leading to an increase in the time taken to process applications, currently about 10 weeks with a 'backlog' of approx. 50,000 applications. Sanction was sought from the Department of Finance for additional resources to clear the backlog and reduce the processing time. The Department of Finance has agreed to the renewal of contracts for ten temporary staff for a further six months and the recruitment of an additional ten temporary staff for six months. This will relieve the pressure somewhat but is not a permanent solution to the ever-growing demand for Garda vetting services.

Renewal of legislative provisions - Certain provisions of the Offences Against the State (Amendment) Act 1998 (including extended periods of detention and taking part in certain terrorist activities) and Section 8 of the Criminal Justice (Amendment) Act 2009 (scheduling offences to be heard in the Special Criminal Court) will fall to be renewed by Resolutions of the Oireachtas before the end of June this year.

North-South Criminal Justice Co-operation

- The devolution of policing and justice matters in Northern Ireland and the setting up of a Northern Ireland Department of Justice provides the Minister the opportunity to discuss issues of mutual interest with his Northern Ireland counterpart accompanied by the Garda Commissioner and PSNI Chief Constable. Furthermore, as responsibility for security matters remains a reserved UK function, the Minister meets with the NI Secretary of State to discuss security threats and related issues.
- **The Department continues to operate the provisions of the North/South Agreement on Co-operation on Criminal Justice Matters.**
- The Minister meets with the NI Justice Minister at least annually to review co-operation under the Agreement. A Working Group of senior officials, comprising officials of the Department and the Northern Ireland Office, along with representatives of various Criminal Justice agencies North and South, meets at least twice annually to coordinate co-operation across a range of policy areas.
- Project groups comprising relevant officials and practitioners from the two jurisdictions have been established in the fields of Youth Justice, Victim Support, Management of Sex Offenders, Probation, Forensic Science and Social Diversity. A Work Programme setting out a number of priorities for 2010-2011 was approved and launched by the two Ministers in July 2010.

North-South Policing Co-operation

- **Operational policing co-operation is the responsibility of the Commissioner and PSNI Chief Constable and their officers and remains at a very high level, be it in relation to 'ordinary' criminality, organised crime or the terrorist threat. Close contact is maintained at a number of levels and across the range of police work.**
- The two police forces recently launched a new Cross Border Policing Strategy covering areas including Cross-border investigations and Operations, Intelligence-sharing and Security, ICT and Emergency Planning.

POLICING ISSUES

Immediate/Urgent Issues

Garda Budget - The Garda budget for 2011 contains sharp reductions in key areas. The Garda Commissioner is the Accounting Officer for the Garda Vote and so has primary responsibility for budget management. However, the Department has a significant role to play in the sanctioning of Garda expenditure (and in obtaining sanctions from the Department of Finance), as well as the authorisation of the virement of money from one subhead to another within the Vote.

Garda Strength - The National Recovery Plan 2011 - 2014 includes a reduction in Garda strength from the current level of around 14,500 to 13,500 by the end of 2011 and to 13,000 by 2014. In the absence of a public service wide redundancy programme these reductions will depend largely on voluntary retirements and it is unlikely that the target for 2011 will be achieved. The general moratorium on public service recruitment continues to be applied to the Garda Síochána and its civilian staff.

Garda Reform Measures - There is a Garda action plan under the Public Service (Croke Park) Agreement 2010 - 2014 which contains proposals for reform. The Department is working with Garda management and the Garda Associations on the advancement of these proposals and they will be the subject of a review provided for under the Agreement.

Garda Rosters - The most important current Garda initiative under the Public Service (Croke Park) Agreement is the development and implementation of a new roster system to enable the deployment of personnel to more closely match policing demands. The relevant work is well advanced and it is expected to be completed in 2011.

Office Holder Fleet - Office Holder cars have been operated and maintained by the Garda Síochána for many years. A number of proposals have been put forward for the introduction of new transport arrangements for Ministers and other Office Holders. These include civilianising the service and a car pool facility. Any such arrangements will have to take account of overall security requirements, particularly in the case of the President, the Taoiseach and certain other Office Holders.

Medium to Long Term Issues

Garda Discipline Regulations - A review is taking place of the Discipline regulations in the Garda Síochána and this will lead to a new set of regulations in 2011. The work is being done in close consultation with the Commissioner, the Representative Associations and the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission (GSOC).

Garda Appointments Regulations - The admission and appointment regulations for entry to the Garda Síochána are being reviewed in light of the publication of the Training and Development report in 2010.

Reports of Garda Síochána Inspectorate - The main function of the Inspectorate is to review how An Garda Síochána carry out their functions and it has submitted a number of reports which have dealt with a wide range of issues. The most significant report published to date was concerned with the allocation of Garda resources and it included a substantial number of recommendations to improve overall Garda performance, including the introduction of new rosters. Implementation of recommendations made by the Inspectorate is on-going and is likely to require investment in new technology.

Garda Síochána Civilianisation - There are over 2,000 civilian personnel in An Garda Síochána carrying out a range of specialist and administrative functions. This is a process that can be further developed with a view to releasing Garda members for frontline policing and to provide additional specialist support. While it has also been highlighted by the Garda Síochána Inspectorate, the programme of civilianisation is effectively on hold as a result of the moratorium on public service recruitment.



Prevention of Corruption Amendment Act 2010 - Following the commencement of the 2010 Act, plans are underway to consolidate the legislation on corruption. It is proposed to carry out an examination of the different protection and reporting mechanisms under the Garda Síochána (Confidential Reporting of Corruption or Malpractice) Regulations 2007 and the 2010 Act in order to streamline the mechanisms for the reporting of corruption by Garda personnel and members of the public.

Costs arising from the Morris Tribunal - The overall cost of the Morris Tribunal since its establishment in April 2002 until the end of December 2010 was €57.89 million. This includes a figure of €30 million for third party legal fees. Estimated third party costs yet to be paid amount to €12.5 million to €15 million and so the Department expects the final cost to be in the order of the €70 to €72 million.

Garda Technical Projects - Full rollout of the National Digital Radio System in all six Garda Regions is expected to be completed by the end of March 2011. The Garda Síochána have extensive computer facilities and they have proposals to introduce further systems to facilitate their operations. These include the development of systems to improve international cooperation. However, the relevant projects will require financial resources and at this stage it is not possible to say when such resources may be available.

Key Issues

Crime Statistics - The recorded crime statistics for 2010 compiled and published by the Central Statistics Office show a decrease in 10 of the 14 crime groups for which figures are given, compared to 2009. Main figures:

- a continuing reduction in the numbers of cases of homicide - down 10.2%, with murder down by 3.6% (from 56 to 54 cases) and manslaughter down 50% (from 4 to 2 cases);
- a reduction in the number of controlled drug offences (down 9%). This takes into account increases in cases of cultivation or manufacture of drugs (up 97.1%) and possession of drugs for sale or supply (up 3.6%), which offences are recorded predominantly as a result of Garda operations;
- a minimal increase in the number of weapons and explosives offences (up 0.3%). However, there were decreases in the numbers of cases of discharging a firearm (down 21.7%) and possession of a firearm (down 1.2%);
- while there was an increase of 28.2% in robbery, extortion and hijacking offences, there were decreases in burglary and related offences (down 5.8%) and theft and related offences (down 0.4%), both of which together make up the greatest proportion (97%) of such property offences;
- while there was an increase of 60.3% shown in sexual offences, this was due, not to an actual increase in the number of cases, but to an adjustment following an on-going review of all cases involving alleged sexual offences reported to An Garda Síochána at various times in the past. This on-going review is taking place in the context of An Garda Síochána making publicly available its policy on the investigation of sexual crime, including child abuse, in April, 2010. As part of that policy, designated Gardaí have responsibility for ensuring that all sexual crime incidents are recorded and reviewed on the Garda PULSE system.


Gangland Crime - The Gardaí face severe challenges in dealing with gangland murders. Often they receive no cooperation from the associates of the deceased. In some cases, persons who have been identified by the Gardaí as at risk, rather than cooperate with Gardaí, seek to thwart the Gardaí so they can get on with their gangland activities. Against that background a series of strong anti-gangland legislative measures were enacted in 2009. The Criminal Justice (Surveillance) Act facilitates the use as evidence in trials of material gained by secret surveillance. The Criminal Justice (Amendment) Act provides for trying certain crimes involving criminal gangs in the Special Criminal Court unless the DPP directs otherwise. It introduced several new organised crime offences with maximum prison sentences of 15 years to life, such as involvement in organised crime and directing or controlling a criminal organisation; simplified the procedures relating to extension of time for questioning of suspects; and increased the penalties for intimidation of a witness or juror. The Gardaí have been making full use of the legislation since it has been enacted, to build up criminal cases against gangland figures. Two persons have been charged with directing the activities of a criminal organisation, and six have been charged with participation offences. Other files are with the DPP. The legislation has been used in over 100 arrests, which have also led to charges in relation to firearms, drug and other offences.

Clerical Sex Abuse - The Report of the Commission of Investigation into the handling of allegations of child sex abuse by clergy of the Catholic Archdiocese of Dublin was published in November, 2009, with the exception of references to two individuals which the High Court directed not be published as they might prejudice criminal proceedings. The references to one of the individuals were published in December, 2010. There will be a High Court hearing in July in respect of the references to the second individual.

The Commission's Report on the Diocese of Cloyne (which had been sought at the behest of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Barry Andrews) was submitted to the Minister on 23 December, 2010 and was referred to the Attorney General, the DPP and Garda Commissioner to enable the Minister to form a view in relation to his functions under the Commissions of Investigation Act in relation to the question of possible prejudice of criminal proceedings.



Following the publication of the Dublin Archdiocese Report in 2009, a Garda Assistant Commissioner has been examining issues raised in the report, and a report will be submitted to the Commissioner as soon as it has been completed and the law officers will be consulted. At the request of the previous Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, the HSE is conducting a national audit of Catholic dioceses and will present a report to the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs when completed. The audit is examining how each diocese, firstly, responded to allegations of child sexual abuse in the past and, secondly, is prepared, in terms of policies and procedures in place, both to handle allegations of child sexual abuse and prevent the possibility of any child being so abused in the future. The HSE has also commenced an audit of religious orders. The previous Minister for Children and Youth Affairs has said that the Government would await the outcome of the audit before making a judgement on whether to investigate the situation in other dioceses.



The Garda Inspectorate submitted a Report, *Responding to Child Sexual Abuse*, which contains 29 recommendations to the previous Minister. The Report is currently being considered prior to being submitted to Government. It had been intended to publish it in tandem with the Cloyne report, if that was likely to be published at an early date. However, that will fall to be reconsidered in the light of developments in relation to the Cloyne report.

Road Safety - The current Road Safety Strategy, published by the Road Safety Authority, which is under the aegis of the Minister for Transport, covers the period 2007 – 2012. Under the Strategy and its predecessor, An Garda Síochána has introduced a series of initiatives, including establishing the Garda Traffic Corps, introducing mandatory alcohol testing for drivers in July 2006, outsourcing to a private service provider (GoSafe) the provision and operation of safety (speed) cameras and introducing new mobile speed detection vans and automated number plate detection technology. These initiatives have made a significant contribution to reducing road fatalities. There were 212 fatalities in 2010, the fifth consecutive annual reduction and the lowest number on record. However, as of 3 March there were ten more fatalities in 2011, compared with the same period in 2010.

Joint Policing Committees (JPCs) - As provided for in the Garda Síochána Act 2005, JPCs have been established in each of the 114 local authority (county, city and town) areas. JPCs provide the framework for a partnership process involving An Garda Síochána, elected members and officials of the local authority and members of the Oireachtas, with the participation of the community and voluntary sector. The functions of the JPCs are set out in the Act, and they operate under guidelines issued by the Minister after consultation with the Ministers for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs. The Act also provides for Local Policing Fora (LPFs) for local neighbourhoods. LPFs are currently being established in the fourteen Local Drugs Task Force areas under guidelines issued by the Minister.

Criminal Assets Bureau - Review of Proceeds of Crime legislation - Since its inception in 1996 up to 31 December 2009 the Bureau has had considerable success and obtained interim and “final” restraint orders to the value of over €87 million and over €41.5 million, respectively; taxes and interest demanded was over €160 million, with over €129 million collected saving over €3.7 million in social welfare payments and recovering overpayments of almost €4.8 million. *An expert group comprising representatives of the Criminal Assets Bureau, the Office of the Attorney General and this Department is currently reviewing the operation of the Proceeds of Crime Acts 1996 and 2005. The primary purpose of the review is to identify possible amendments to the proceeds of crime legislation which would serve to enhance the operation of the Criminal Assets Bureau in carrying out its functions. The Bureau is currently finalising a paper in relation to a number of matters that arise for consideration by the group.*

The areas to be reviewed include –

- the statutory suspension period, currently set at 7 years, between the obtaining of an interlocutory order in respect of assets/properties and the final disposal of the assets/properties;
- the powers of the receiver to control assets/properties;
- the possibility of introducing the short term seizure of assets believed to be proceeds of crime on the authority of the Chief Bureau Officer pending determination by the Courts;
- the possibility of improving international cooperation arrangements.

Organised Crime Developments at EU level - Work will continue in 2011 on the creation and implementation of the first EU policy cycle for organised and serious international crime. It is intended that the policy cycle will inform EU policy in tackling the most important criminal threats in a coherent and methodological manner through optimum cooperation between relevant services of the Member State, EU institutions and agencies and third countries.

Drugs - The Government's approach to tackling the problem of drug misuse is being pursued through a co-ordinated and integrated approach under the National Drugs Strategy 2009-2016. The lead in progressing the National Drugs Strategy is the Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs. The primary role for this Department and the bodies under its aegis is in the area of drugs supply reduction. The Department services a variety of groups established under the Strategy and, in liaison with the Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs, plays a significant role in representing the State at international fora addressing drugs misuse. The Department liaises with, and supports, An Garda Síochána in the advancement of law enforcement efforts to tackle drugs misuse. With regard to drugs law enforcement, drugs and organised crime are being prioritised by An Garda Síochána as a core focus for 2011 through the Garda Síochána Policing Plan. In tackling drugs the Policing Plan places a particular emphasis on operations aimed at street level drug dealing and the targeting of 'grow houses'.

While Misuse of Drugs legislation is primarily a matter for the Department of Health and Children, the Department has a role in developing legislation in related areas primarily concerned with drug supply e.g. drug trafficking, sale and supply of psychoactive substances.

The enactment of the Criminal Justice (Psychoactive Substances) Act 2010, in conjunction with controls introduced by the Department of Health and Children under the Misuse of Drugs legislation, has had an immediate effect in significantly reducing the number of 'headshop' outlets operating in the State. The operation of the Act is being kept under review.

Under the auspices of the National Advisory Committee on Drugs (NACD) two research projects have been undertaken in areas of particular relevance to this Department and are expected to be published in 2011. The first is a research report entitled 'An overview of New Psychoactive Substances and the Outlets Supplying Them'. This report is currently undergoing editorial revision with publication expected shortly. The second is a research project on illicit drug markets in Ireland. Research has concluded on this project and a draft report has now been submitted to the NACD. This report is to be submitted for peer review and editorial revision with a final report expected mid 2011 and publication thereafter.

Ireland is a member of the Maritime Analysis Operations Centre for Narcotics (MAOC-N). The Centre was established 2007 to collect and analyse information to assist in actively utilising international law enforcement assets to combat illicit drug trafficking by sea and by air. Seven EU Member States in total are members of the Centre. Ireland has two liaison officers (Garda and Customs) permanently assigned to the Centre. A Grant Application for the period 2011 to 2013 seeking funding in the amount of approximately €2.5 million is currently before the European Commission. This funding reflects the proposed phase 3 development of the Centre following an evaluation carried out in 2009.

Immediate/Urgent Issues

Cloyne Report - Obtain the advice of the Attorney General so as to enable the Minister to form an opinion on whether publication of the report would prejudice any criminal proceedings; if considered necessary apply to the High Court for directions; publish the report in accordance with any High Court directions; formulate, in consultation with the Officer of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, a response to the report as published.

Dublin and Cloyne Third Party Legal Costs - Following the receipt of advice from the Chief State Solicitor's Office, formulate a response to the Commission of Investigation's directions.

Garda Inspectorate Report Responding to Child Sexual Abuse - Formulate a response.

Dublin Archdiocese Report - Consider the Garda Report, when available, on issues raised by the Report.

Forensic Science Laboratory - It is proposed to go to tender in the near future regarding the construction of a new Forensic Science Laboratory in Backweston, Co Kildare. This is a key project for the Department. The new facilities are essential to meet national and international obligations regarding a DNA database.


White Paper on Crime - Since 2009 the Department has been engaged in a major consultative exercise leading to the production of a White Paper on Crime. The White Paper is due for completion in 2011 and will set out a policy framework for future strategies to combat and prevent crime. The development of the White Paper involves an end to end examination of the prevention, intervention and enforcement strategies to combat crime. The consultation process has principally been based around a series of discussion documents with corresponding consultation meetings. The intention is that this process would lead ultimately to a National Crime Strategy.

- The White Paper on Crime work plan currently envisages that the 4th and final round of consultations will take place during the summer, framed around a discussion document entitled *Community and the Criminal Justice System*. The provisional arrangements are for consultation seminars to take place in Dublin, Galway, Limerick, Waterford and Tralee over the last two weeks in May (when these are added to the locations chosen earlier in the process, a reasonable geographical spread will have been achieved over the lifetime of the project). As there are lead times required in order to book venues and issue invitations, a confirmation that this approach remains in order is required if the events are to go ahead as planned.
- Work is underway on drafting the actual White Paper itself, taking into account the outcome of the consultation process and ongoing internal discussion. This exercise will now need to reflect crime related commitments in the Programme for Government, including those relating to Departments other than the Department of Justice and Law Reform but which have crime prevention aspects. Further detailed discussions will be required with key criminal justice agencies. Ultimately, a Government decision will be required to approve the White Paper and related implementation arrangements.

Mutual Assistance and Extradition



Anti Human Trafficking

- **Investigations of Trafficking in Human Beings allegations** – There is a continuing need for priority to be given to the investigation of cases.
- **Criminalising forced labour** – 
- **NGO Campaign for Introduction of “Swedish” Model to Ireland** – The issue is being dealt with primarily by the Criminal Law Reform Division as the issue is, in the first instance, primarily related to reform of the criminal law. This Unit is involved because of the relationship between the provision of sexual services with human trafficking. The “Swedish Model” criminalises the purchaser of sex and decriminalises the seller of sex in order to discourage demand for prostitution/sexual exploitation of women.
- **Provide a legislative basis for Legal Aid Board assisting victims of human trafficking in criminal matters** – The Civil Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill which has now lapsed contained a provision to provide a legislative basis for the Legal Aid Board to assist victims of human trafficking in criminal matters which is currently being done on an administrative basis.

Victims of Crime

- Ensure the criminal justice agencies are implementing the Victims Charter, securing improvement of the existing systems of monitoring services to victims and the development of new systems.
- Improved co-operation between the voluntary sector organisations supporting victims of crime.

- Dealing with the fall-out in voluntary sector organisations due to cut backs in other state funding and trying to pick up the pieces if the funding of the Commission for the Support of Victims of Crime is cut in the revised estimates.
- Influencing the drafting of the new EU directive on the standing of victims of crime in criminal proceedings and securing an opt-in to the Directive when it is published in mid-May.

Mental Health (Criminal Law) Review Board - The Mental Health (Criminal Law) Review Board is a statutory, independent body whose function is to review the detention of patients who have been referred to the Central Mental Hospital, arising from a decision by the courts that they are unfit to stand trial or who have been found not guilty by reason of insanity. The Board is also responsible for reviewing the detention of patients transferred to the Central Mental Hospital from prisons.

- Managing the issuing of conditional discharge orders with enforceable conditions for a backlog of patients who are ready or will shortly be ready for conditional discharge following the coming into force of the Criminal Law (Insanity) Act 2010, on 8 February 2011.
- Managing the ongoing six monthly review of the eighty or so patients in the Central Mental Hospital under the remit of the Board.

International Policy

- **JHA Council** - JHA Ministerial Councils offer the Minister an opportunity to build relationships with EU counterparts from an early stage. This is likely to be an important success factor in the Department's participation in the next EU Presidency. There are three JHA Councils during each Presidency of the European Union (plus an informal meeting hosted by the Presidency). Formal meetings are held in either Brussels or Luxembourg. The next JHA Councils will take place on 11/12 April and 9/10 June 2011 in Luxembourg. The work of JHA Council is guided by the policy priorities of the Stockholm Programme. This programme, together with its associated Action Plan, sets out concrete legislative and operational planning actions in the area of Freedom, Security and Justice in the period 2010-14.
- **Ireland's next EU Presidency 2013** - IPD has commenced planning for the Department's participation in Ireland's next EU Presidency, which will take place from 1 January to 30 June 2013. From as early as mid-2011, the necessary preparations for the Presidency will place increasing resource demands on the Department – most particularly in IPD, but also in the numerous other Divisions that are directly involved in EU business. Experience has shown that it is vital to identify, secure and begin putting in place the necessary human, financial and technological resources 12-18 months in advance of an EU Presidency. Obviously, the prevailing budgetary circumstances pose an immediate and significant challenge in this regard.
- **Schengen evaluation regulation** - A new European Commission proposal for a mechanism to evaluate application of the Schengen *acquis* excludes Ireland (and the UK) on the basis that they do not apply the *acquis* in full. This effectively 'freezes' Ireland out of a key part of the Schengen evaluation framework, and could have implications for our intended future participation in certain aspects of the *acquis*. (Background note: The Schengen area comprises 25 European countries which have abolished all passport controls at their common borders, accompanied by the adoption of enhanced police and judicial co-operation measures. All EU Member States other than Ireland and the UK are, or have applied to be, full participants in the Schengen *acquis*, along with Iceland, Norway and Switzerland. While Ireland and the UK have decided not to join the Schengen area in favour of maintaining their Common Travel Area, each has successfully applied to participate in certain co-operation measures under the *acquis*.)

Medium to Long Term Issues

JPC Guidelines - As the current JPC guidelines were issued by the Minister in September 2008, it would be appropriate to review their operation in conjunction with the Garda National JPC Monitoring Office and the Departments of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs (as the LPCs are still in the process of being established, it would be too early to review their operation at this stage).

Dublin Archdiocese Report - Consider outcome of High Court hearing in July.

Anti-Social Behaviour - Review the operation of the provisions for combating anti-social behaviour in the Criminal Justice Act 2006, Parts 11 (adults) and 13 (children) and section 184 (public order fixed charge notices), in conjunction with the Irish Youth Justice Service.

Road Safety - Contribute, under the chairmanship of the Department of Transport, to putting in place the administrative arrangements required to bring into operation section 5 of the Road Traffic Act 2006 as amended relating to drink driving administrative disqualifications and contribute to introducing the provisions of the Road Traffic Act 2010 relating to the third payment option and the payment deposit scheme.

Mutual Assistance and Extradition

- The Minister for Justice and Law Reform is the Central Authority for European Arrest Warrants. In 2010, Ireland received 373 warrants (up from 26 in 2004 when the EAW 2003 Act was commenced). The High Court is the executing judicial authority. The number of warrants received is putting strain on judicial, courts and Garda resources. We are endeavouring to address the issue at legislative and operational levels but are severely restricted in what we can do given EU obligations. The 2003 Act has been amended in a piecemeal fashion on a number of occasions and a 'root and branch' overhaul of the Act is required to simplify and streamline procedures.
- The Department is reviewing extradition arrangements with a view towards further improving the processing of requests.
- Ireland has not been in a position, based on the advice of the Attorney General, to opt in to a proposal for a European Investigation Order (designed to replace the current mutual legal assistance 'request' with a judicial order issued in the requesting state). The proposal reflects the civil law system of the sponsoring states and presents problems for common law states. Our concerns focus on the very limited role assigned to Central Authorities (who, in our case, fulfil the role played by investigating judges in civil law states) and the suggestion that a state may be obliged to execute an EIO even if it could not do so in a similar domestic case. We are taking part in the negotiations and it is hoped that we may be in a position to ultimately opt in to the measure after adoption provided Irish concerns can be adequately addressed.
- The European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS) which provides for a speedy electronic exchange of criminal records information will be operational in April 2012. An Garda Síochána is in the process of taking over Central Authority functions from the Department as regards criminal records information in order that it can operate ECRIS. EU proposals for ECRIS-TCN (Third Country Nationals) are due to be presented in early 2012. ECRIS-TCN will provide for a single electronic check to see if a third country national arrested in one Member State has a criminal record anywhere else in the EU.

Firearms, Explosives and Private Security

- **Judicial Reviews under new Firearms Legislation (2009)** - Handguns were generally banned under the Criminal Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009. Since the commencement of the Act and the introduction of a tighter regulatory regime, approx 180 judicial reviews have been lodged arising from refusals by designated persons within An Garda Síochána to grant firearm certificates for large calibre handguns.

Given the large number of JRs instituted in a short space of time, 3 test cases have been chosen.

The hearing of test cases may avoid the necessity of many cases having to be heard and determined by the courts with all the associated very significant costs. Mr. Justice Hedigan has listed 1 April 2011 as the date to hear Motions for Discovery associated with the test cases. It is listed for one day.

- **New Explosives legislation** - The formal drafting of an Explosives Bill 2011 by the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel is almost complete. The new Act will repeal, in its entirety, the Explosives Act 1875 and replace it with a modern statutory framework, including a raft of new supporting Regulations. Government approval to proceed with the drafting of the Bill was obtained in February 2008. The publication of the Bill itself is expected in late March/early April 2011, following consultation on e-cabinet.
 - **Private Security Authority (PSA)** - The Private Security Authority is the independent statutory body with responsibility for regulating contractors and staff in the private security industry. While an Agency of the Department, the Authority has its own independent Board appointed by the Minister. To date it has licensed all those working in security guarding, door security. It has also licensed contractors installing intruder alarms and those providing Cash in Transit services. Subject to the enactment of amending legislation, it also plans to licence CCTV contractors and staff working in CIT companies later this year. In subsequent years it plans to licence security at large events, contractors providing CCTV monitoring centres and all staff monitoring either CCTV or alarms, together with staff installing any form of security equipment. Its statutory remit extends in the longer term to licensing of locksmiths, private investigators and security consultants. A key issue is the enactment of the Civil Law Miscellaneous Provisions Bill 2010. This will enable the Authority to operate more efficiently by outsourcing some of its lower level inspection work on a regional basis to part-time Inspectors. The Bill also facilitates the restructuring of the charging mechanism for licensing enabling the Authority to raise additional income.
 - **Target Shooting Ranges S.I.** - The legislation dealing with firearms ownership and use has undergone significant change in recent years. A regulation for the introduction of a modern regulatory code for target shooting ranges is in the final stages of drafting with the OPC and is expected to be ready for signing for the Minister in the near future.
 - **Review of the Scheme of Security of Explosives –**
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- **Ongoing Regulation and Control of explosives industry** - Continue to regulate and control the manufacture, importation, storage, sale and transportation of explosives (including fireworks). In this regard, the Division aims to strengthen inspection, information and enforcement measures with the enactment of the Explosives Bill 2011. The Division will also continue to implement, where appropriate the recommendations of the EU Action Plan insofar as it relates to the functions of the Division.
 - **New SIs on Security of Firearms Dealers Premises** - Draft regulations on security standards for the premises of firearms dealers have yet to be finalised by the Office of Parliamentary Counsel. There are approx 320 registered firearms dealers in the country and 220,000 licensed firearms.
 - **Requirements under EU Weapons Directive 2008/51/EC** - The Garda PULSE system needs to be updated to take account of the EU Weapons Directive. At present, the Department holds computerised records of all imports of firearms. The PULSE system which holds details relating to all firearm certificates needs to include the import data. The deadline under the Directive is December 2014.
 - **New SI on Realistic Imitation Firearms** - Section 40 of the Criminal Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009 provides for a new licensing regime for dealers in realistic imitation firearms (such as Airsoft). An S.I. providing minimum security standards for premises of dealers in realistic imitation firearms (RIFs) has been drafted. Once in force, only those registered to deal in RIFs will be able to import or sell RIFs.

Domestic/Sexual/Gender Based Violence - Implement Cosc's National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based violence 2010-2014, including

- Targeting the general public, Travellers and ethnic minorities, young people and justice professionals in order to increase understanding and recognition of domestic and sexual violence and the services available to deal with these crimes.
- Increasing effective action to deal with perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual violence offenders.
- Increasing cohesion across the justice sector and the health/housing sectors.
- Improving and co-ordinating data to inform policy and service development.

Anti Human Trafficking - Implementation of the proposed EU Directive on Human Trafficking – A Proposal for an EU Directive on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Protecting Victims, is to be approved at a Council of Ministers meeting (possibly Ministers for Finance) in March 2011 with a 2-year timeframe for implementation. Subject to the views of the Attorney General it is likely that, at minimum, changes to the Criminal Law (Human Trafficking) Act 2008 will need to be made to provide for the new definition of human trafficking which includes begging. Other additional administrative measures will also need to be put in place in that timeframe.

Victims of Crime - Contributing to a review of the bail legislation in conjunction with victim interests.

Mental Health (Criminal Law) Review Board - Managing the transition to a newly constituted Board if some or all of the existing members are not re-appointed in September, 2011.

International Policy - Ireland's JHA opt-in arrangement - Ireland (together with the UK) secured a Protocol to the Lisbon Treaty entitling it to participate in JHA measures on a case by case basis. The Government made a Declaration on the Protocol confirming its intention to participate in JHA measures to the greatest extent possible, particularly in the field of police co-operation. The opt-in arrangements are to be reviewed after a three-year period (end 2012). In the meantime, IPD is monitoring the operation of the Protocol and, in particular, issues arising with the application of the opt-in arrangement.

JUSTICE SERVICES

RELEVANT DIVISIONS AND CONTACTS

Courts Policy Division	
Prisons & Probation & Policy	
Irish Youth Justice Service	
Coroner Service/State Pathology	

Note – issues highlighted in red text reflect commitments under the Programme for Government 2011-2016

COURTS

Immediate/Urgent Issues

Criminal Legal Aid

- Cost reduction measures – challenging target of €5 million savings in 2011: proposals in development
- Criminal Legal Aid Bill – draft progressing well in consultation with Parliamentary Counsel

Family Law Maintenance Enforcement –

Judicial Matters

ECHR

Courts Service – current challenges - **Fines Act implementation**, combined office rollout, ECF staffing targets, ICT investment shortfall, capital programme halted, resourcing implications of Legal Services, **Personal Insolvency, Judicial Council and Mental Capacity bills**.

Medium to Long Term Issues

Criminal Legal Aid - Transition arrangements to facilitate operational transfer to Legal Aid Board, working target of 1/1/2012.

Implementation of Judge Reilly report recommendations – this primarily involves preliminary work on Justice Hub, an IT project to link existing ICT systems of criminal justice agencies. Working group currently in place to settle Unique ID for Justice sector.

Review of Dublin Drug Treatment Court – new court steering group was set a target of eighteen months to improve throughput, further review due to commence end 2011.

LEGAL AID BOARD

Key Issues:

The demand for civil legal aid (delivered by the Legal Aid Board – budget €30.5 million) continues to grow, reflecting the greater number of people eligible for services as a consequence of the downturn in the economy and the increase in certain types of case (family, debt, employment particularly). Demand has grown from 9,689 cases in 2006 to 17,175 in 2010. The great majority of clients are people in receipt of social protection payments and accordingly the Board has taken the innovative step of 'passporting' clients in to their services without further means testing where they have already been through such a process for social protection payments.

The Board has sought to address these resource issues in a variety of innovative ways including trialing increased use of mediation, use of private practitioner schemes on fixed rates and new technology for better case management. However, they face severe constraints given the increase in demand for services.

PRISONS AND PROBATION

Key Issues:

Prisoner numbers and trends - The prison population on 1 March, 2011 stands at 4,591 with a further 748 on temporary release. The current bed capacity of the prisons estate is 4430. Despite the introduction of 1934 new prison spaces during the last 14 years, the Irish Prison Service is currently operating at 104% of bed capacity. In the Dóchas Centre (Women's Prison) the rate is 131%. The population has been growing steadily. By way of example, from 2007 to December 2010 prisoner numbers in custody have increased by 969 prisoners (29%) The number on Temporary Release has gone from 153 persons (4.4%) to 732 persons or (14.5%). An analysis of the prison population has shown that the increase in prison numbers is primarily as a result of an increased number of persons being committed and sentenced to longer sentences. While there has also been an increase in committals with shorter sentences and in those on remand, these have not had a significant impact. By European standards we have gone from a country with a relatively low rate of imprisonment up to the European average. Overcrowding is a problem but is still less severe than in countries such as Belgium (125%), France (131%), Italy (130%) and Spain (141%).

Commission of Investigation into the death of Gary Douch - Gary Douch was killed by a fellow prisoner in Mountjoy in 2006. A Commission of Investigation was set up to inquire into the facts. The Chairperson, Gráinne McMorrough SC, has indicated that it is her intention [REDACTED]

The Minister is obliged to publish the report as soon as possible after receiving it. In cases where its publication might prejudice criminal proceedings, the Minister may refer the matter of publication to the High Court for decision.

New prison at Thornton Hall, Co. Dublin and other projects - Construction of a dedicated access road due to be completed in March, 2011 is underway. The installation of off-site services is due to be completed in September, 2011. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The next phase of the project planned involves a tender competition for the provision of 400 cells (700 spaces approximately) with construction completion scheduled for 2014. Developments at the Midlands prison and the Dóchas Centre are already proceeding which will yield 370 spaces.

Inspector of Prisons - Former District Court Judge Michael Reilly is the Inspector. He is required by the Prisons Act, 2007, to carry out inspections of prisons and make reports which are then published. He has recently produced a number of reports on standards and procedures relating to complaints, accommodation and deaths in custody which are being examined.

[REDACTED]

Magdalen Laundries- There is a campaign by groups acting on behalf of some women who were in Magdalen Laundries that the State should accept responsibility for any abuses that took place in these institutions.

[REDACTED]

Parole Board - The Parole Board makes recommendations on managing the sentences of long term prisoners. Its Chairman, Mr Gordon Holmes, passed away on 19 January 2011. Consideration will need to be given to appointing a new Chairperson.

YOUTH JUSTICE

Immediate/Urgent Issues

National Children Detention Facilities - Development of Phase 1 of the new national children detention facilities at Oberstown, Lusk, Co. Dublin to provide sufficient detention places for young people under 18 years ordered to be detained by the Courts. Phase 1 of the project will prioritise the provision of sufficient new detention places to enable the transfer of responsibility for 16 and 17 year old boys, currently housed in St. Patrick's Institution, from the Irish Prison Service. This development is subject to Government approval and the necessary funding being made available. Major reforms are underway in the delivery of services in the 3 detention schools. This includes a plan to integrate policies, practices, and the development of shared services and common rosters. This work is being progressed by IYJS in conjunction with the Board of Management and the relevant unions.

Garda Youth Diversion Projects - Continue the capacity-building change management programme of the 100 Garda Youth Diversion Projects (GYDPs) to enable them to focus on local youth crime problems. This change programme comprises a national programme of training for youth justice workers and Garda JLOs, 15 trial sites have been selected to help develop best practice approaches and a closed web-based on-line forum for staff and Gardaí to share organisational wisdom, facilitate on-line discussion and learning and provide access to the latest youth justice research.

Youth Justice Strategy - A new Youth Justice Strategy will be developed in tandem with the new National Children's Strategy which is currently being developed by the Office for the Minister for Children. The first National Youth Justice Strategy covering the period 2008-2010 is almost fully implemented with outstanding issues being progressed as soon as possible.

Usage and Sharing of Personal Data - Facilitate appropriate usage and sharing of personal data in the best interests of children in the youth justice sector and within the safeguards of data protection legislation. A general guide setting out the main principles of personal data protection and sharing was drafted by IYJS and received positive endorsement from the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner.

Medium to Long Term Issues

Amendments to the Children Act 2001 - Minister's approval in principle will be sought to proceed to draft the heads of a Bill in respect of amendments to the Children Act 2001. Legal advice has been received around particular issues and lacunae in the legislation have been identified.

Youth Justice Teams - Facilitate the establishment of local Youth Justice Teams which will improve service delivery at local level.

Community Sanctions - Ensure availability of community sanctions in conjunction with the Young Person's Probation division of the Probation Service.

Youth Justice Research Programme - Develop and implement a youth justice research programme to enable further enhancement of the evidential basis for policy development.

CORONER SERVICE AND OFFICE OF THE STATE PATHOLOGIST

Key Issues:

Coroner Service - The Coroner Service is delivered by individual coroners, who are local authority officers, in 48 separate coroner jurisdictions on a part-time basis (except in Dublin City where there is a full-time Coroner). The immediate key focus of any reform should be to achieve a more effective and cost efficient provision of service in the Dublin region which comprises approximately 40% of the national coronial caseload. Currently, there is a coroner for the Dublin City area and a coroner for the three local authority areas, which formerly comprised the old Dublin County Council.

Office of the State Pathologist - Work has commenced on a new joint facility for the Office of the State Pathologist and the Dublin City Coroner's Office at the O'Brien Institute, Marino, Dublin 3. The new state-of-the-art building is due for completion by autumn 2012. Jointly sponsored by the Department and Dublin City Council, the development will include post-mortem and laboratory facilities equipped with leading-edge technology. It will completely overhaul and modernise the facilities for use in instances of forensic pathology.

ASYLUM, IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP

RELEVANT DIVISIONS AND CONTACTS

Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service (INIS)	
Reception & Integration Agency (RIA)	

Note – issues highlighted in red text reflect commitments under the Programme for Government 2011-2016

INIS is an administrative body under the Department of Justice and Law reform and is responsible for functions in relation to asylum, immigration (including Visas) and citizenship matters. It comprises of 7 Divisions as follows:

- Immigration and Citizenship Policy
- General Immigration
- Visas and EU Treaty Rights
- Citizenship and Long Term Residency
- Asylum Policy
- Repatriation, including Ministerial Decision Unit, and Family Reunification
- Corporate / Shared Services

The asylum system is administered by the Office of the Refugee Applications Commissioner (ORAC) who deal with cases at first instance and the Refugee Appeals Tribunal (RAT). The processing of cases for failed asylum seekers is then dealt with by the Repatriation Division of INIS. The provision of accommodation is dealt with by the Reception & Integration Agency (RIA), an administrative body attached to INIS.

INIS works closely with the Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) who carry out a range of immigration functions on behalf of the Minister, including registration of immigrants, border control and the exercise of immigration officer functions on behalf of the Minister. Certain members of the staff of INIS are also designated immigration officers.

INIS has a total budget for €120.8 million for 2011, €67.5 million of which is allocated to the Direct Provision system for asylum seekers with the balance meeting staffing and administration costs including the provision of legal funding to the Refugee Legal Service (under the auspices of the Legal Aid Board) and towards meeting other legal costs. A total of €30.9 million in receipts from Immigration, Visas and Citizenship fees is also included in the budget.

The total staffing complement of INIS at the 31/12/2010 was 404 with 120 in ORAC, 66 in RAT and 38 in RIA.

Some high level statistics:

- Visa applications – there were over 144,000 applications in 2010 and almost 750,000 in the past 5 years.
- Immigration Registrations – there were 162,398 registered at end 2010. Any non-EEA national who is resident or intends to be resident in the State for more than 90 days must, by law, register with the Garda National Immigration Bureau.
- Citizenship applications – there were 25,796 applications for citizenship in 2010. This represents an almost threefold increase over 2008 figures when just over 9,000 applications were received. There were also 2,305 applications for Long Term Residency in 2010.
- EU Treaty Rights applications – there were 2,539 applications in 2010. The number of applications now exceeds the number of asylum applications.
- Asylum applications – since 2002 when the number of applications peaked at over 11,500, there has been a steady decline in applications to 1,939 in 2010. However, there are over 12,000 cases on

hand at Repatriation stage (both asylum and immigration cases). There are just over 6,000 asylum seekers in the Direct Provision system.

Immediate/Urgent Issues

Dealing with Volumes of Cases On Hand and Consequences Arising

- The most significant challenge facing INIS is to process the large volume of applications across a broad range of immigration and visa schemes together with the number of cases in the asylum system. While the number of new asylum applications has decreased significantly over the past few years, a large number of cases remain to be fully processed through the system. The length of time taken to process applications is a function of a number of factors including the quasi-judicial nature of the cases, the outcome of legal challenges which may require changed procedures to be introduced at short notice and the overall complexity of the system.

INIS is acutely aware of the need to address this issue while at the same time operating within significantly reduced budget allocations for 2011. Under its Business Transformation Programme (BTP), INIS has a comprehensive Business Transformation Programme in place. The BTP, which is central to INIS's response to the Public Service Agreement 2010–2014 ('Croke Park Agreement'), is aimed at delivering improved services, streamlining work practises, and achieving greater efficiency and value for money in the way INIS carries out its business. Twenty high level actions are incorporated in the Work Programme for 2011 which include, inter-alia, organisation restructuring to deliver on priority work objectives, targeting backlogs, streamlining work processing arrangements and tackling abuses of the immigration and asylum systems.

The most significant challenge is in the Repatriation area with just over 12,000 cases (a significant number of which are in the Direct Provision system) awaiting a decision at Subsidiary Protection or Section 3 (Immigration Act 1999) stage. The costs to the State in terms of accommodation, social/supplementary welfare, healthcare and education are significant. This is one of the highest priorities under the Business under the BTP outlined above.

- On the Citizenship side, there has been a major growth in applications with consequent challenges for processing of cases in reasonable timeframes. There are currently approximately 24,500 applications on hand. *Options for reducing the current average processing time of 26 months are being considered under the BTP.*
- Another challenge facing INIS is to meet the requirements under the Directive on Free Movement 2004/38/EC (EU Treat Rights) which prescribes a time limit of 6 months for decision on an application for residence rights based on being a family member of an EU citizen exercising their right to free movement under the Directive. While there is no set time limit for appeals of refusals, case law has established a three month time limit. A number of options for tackling this are being considered.

Legal Challenges

- The successful defence of legal challenges taken by individual applicants against a range of decisions taken by INIS including those in relation to deportation/transfer or removal from the State is critical to the integrity of the asylum and immigration system. A number of high profile cases are currently at various stages in the legal process including -
 - Transfers to Greece under the Dublin II Regulation (the system for determining the EU Member State responsible for examining an application for asylum). Difficulties in the application of the EU Dublin Regulation in relation to transfers of asylum seekers to Greece have intensified following a ruling in January 2011 by the European Court of Human Rights, that a transfer of an asylum seeker from Belgium to Greece was in violation of the European Convention of Human Rights. The ruling is based primarily on the deficiencies in the reception and asylum system in Greece. A number of Member States had suspended making transfers to Greece prior to the Court's decision and others have followed since the decision. The Irish High Court, the UK Court of Appeal and the German Higher Administrative Court

have each requested a preliminary ruling from the European Court of Justice concerning the correct interpretation of the Dublin Regulation in the context of cases involving transfers to Greece. A detailed submission to the Minister on the matter is in preparation.

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- An area showing increased levels of judicial review is in relation EU Treaty Rights decisions. A number of cases have recently been adjudicated or are due to be shortly and the consequences of these judgements are being examined in conjunction with legal advisers. It is likely that some changes to administrative procedures will be required.

Immigration

- **New Immigration Legislation** - The Immigration Residence and Protection Bill 2010 was in Dáil Committee Stage when the previous Government left office. There is a clear need to overhaul Ireland's legislation in this area and we await the Minister's direction on how the Government wishes to proceed. A briefing note is being prepared on this issue outlining possible options.
- **New Policy Proposals on Immigration and Business** - Proposals are being drafted with a view to establishing new immigration schemes that would attract foreign investors and entrepreneurs with particular emphasis on start up enterprises in key sectors. INIS is working with State agencies and other Departments in this area through new consultative arrangements.
- **Family Reunification** - Proposals on family reunification rules are being drafted. The initial proposal will be for family reunification involving the families of Irish nationals. This would be followed by proposals for reunification where all parties are non-EEA nationals.

Visas



- **Enhancement of visa processing for business, tourism and student applicants** - A series of measures are being implemented to facilitate visas for business, tourism and student visas from certain markets such as India and China while maintaining appropriate visa controls.
- **Common Travel Area co-operation** - There is an excellent and longstanding level of co-operation between Irish and UK officials on matters concerning the protection of the Common Travel Area between UK and Ireland.



EU Treaty Rights

- **Free Movement Regulations** - EU Directive 2004/38/EC provides for the right of EU citizens and their family members to move and reside freely within the territories of the Member States. Arising from recent bilateral discussion with the European Commission on Ireland's transposition, some amendments will be required to the regulations. It is also intended to bring in measures in the area of marriage of convenience, mirroring those set out in the Immigration Residence and Protection Bill 2010. It might also be noted that Ireland has, since the Metock judgement in 2008, (which ruled out the requirement for prior legal residence by applicants in another EU Member State), argued for a revision of the Directive to make it less prone to abuse. This is a longer term issue however.

- **Introduction of interviews of applicants** - There is evidence of considerable abuse of the Directive, particularly through marriages of convenience. A system of interviewing some applicants and their EU spouses was commenced in December 2010. Following comprehensive training of staff in EUTR applications section, it is intended to roll out interviews as an integral part of the consideration of selected applications.

Asylum

- **Infringement Proceedings relating to the Asylum Procedures Directive**



Repatriation

- **Deportation of non-EEA national prisoners** - The importance of having paper-work completed so as to ensure that where non-EEA national prisoners have been convicted of serious crimes, they are, wherever possible, deported at the point of their release from prison. The deportation of those with convictions for murder, rape/sexual assault, drugs offences and serious crimes against the person would be of greatest importance in this context.

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Accommodation for Asylum Seekers (Reception & Integration Agency)

- **Matching accommodation to current needs, given the fall in numbers in accommodation** At the end of February 2011, there were 6,005 asylum seekers in accommodation. This represents a reduction of 353 persons (or 5.5%) on the same period last year. As a general rule, RIA does not seek to move residents once they settle into a centre. This rule unfortunately cannot apply in circumstances where a centre closes, or where the contract capacity reduces. Closures and/or downsizing of accommodation is tragic for those who may lose their jobs but also extremely unsettling and disruptive for asylum seekers. Such activity invariably attracts criticism of the NGO support groups and also from other State service providers, such as education and health, who may also be negatively effected by closures (e.g., loss of a local teacher or the re-assignment of clinical staff to other areas, etc.)
- **Meeting budgetary targets and Value For Money Report (VFM) recommendations** - RIA's 2011 budget of €67.492m represents a 13% reduction on the 2010 budget. The VFM report recommended that RIA seek to maintain its occupancy rates at a minimum of 90% at all times.

Citizenship/Long Term Residency



Immigration

- **New Administrative Schemes** - The current immigration regime requires some more clearly defined sets of rules catering for increasingly diverse immigration scenarios. Considerable work has been done in the area of students and doctors and it is proposed to deliver a series of additional schemes on key categories. The current system of immigration categories and stamps is also being overhauled.
- **Student Immigration** - A new regime has been established in the area of student immigration in tandem with a strategy for the growth of international education as a key economic sector. The new rules came into force in January 2011. Since the new rules impose limits on how long a person can remain in Ireland as a student, it will give rise in the second half of 2011 to a situation where substantial numbers of students will no longer be permitted to remain.
- **Implementation of the EC Council Regulation 1030/2002** (as amended by Council Regulation No. 380/2008) - The Regulation lays down a uniform format for residence permits for third country nationals. The Regulation sets out the technical specification which must be followed for all residence permits issued by Member States to third country nationals (other than asylum seekers and persons on short stays). This is a major project involving INIS and An Garda Síochána which requires the upgrading of the Garda National Immigration Bureau Information System (GNIBIS) and operational changes to the current Garda Registration framework where applications for the residence permit will be dealt with. The residence permit requires PKI (Public Key infrastructure) encryption and the creation of an infrastructure to support the underlying systems to issues keys and certificates required by PKI.

- **Polygamous marriages** - Increasingly, the issue of polygamous marriages has arisen in relation to various types of applications being made to INIS. An INIS wide policy addressing this issue will be developed.

Visas

- **Extension of the e-Visa Project** - Based on the success of use of biometric capture (electronic fingerprints) in a pilot scheme in Nigeria, the system will be extended to two other locations in 2011 with further deployment to follow in future years.
- **Planning for peak periods for applications for visas and re-entry visas** - Arrangements are being made to prevent queues and backlogs for applicants for re-entry visas at the peak pre-summer period and to deal with possible demand for Europa League Final on May 18 (possible qualification for final by a team from a visa required country – Russia, Belarus, Ukraine or Turkey).
- **Completion of assignment of visa applications to new Visa Office in Abu Dhabi** - The Visa Office in Abu Dhabi, set up in late 2010, is to take over processing of visa applications from a range of countries from North Africa to Pakistan. The transfer of processing, on an incremental basis, is ongoing and due to be completed in the third quarter of 2011. The extension will involve arrangement with commercial visa facilitation service.
- **Conclusion of new contract for supply of visa stickers** - Following an EU tender process, a new contract for the supply of Irish visa stickers is almost ready for conclusion. The new contract will deliver significant savings over the terms of the previous supply contract while maintaining the strict EU security standards.
- **Common Travel Area Co-operation**
 - **E-Borders** - This relates to the collection and processing of data on passengers, in advance of their travelling.

- **Extension of Visa Data Sharing –**



- **Repatriation caseload fingerprint referral** - The conclusion of an initiative to refer the fingerprint records of persons in the repatriation caseload to the UK for searching against UK immigration records which may identify information facilitating the processing of cases to final decision and deportations where appropriate.

EU Treaty Rights

- **Implementation of Commission Report recommendations** - On foot of the Commission review of our transposition of the Free Movement Directive (2004/38), amendments to the European Communities (Free Movement of Persons) Regulations 2006 and 2008 will be required. Some issues have already been identified as part of the review process.

Asylum

- **Common European Asylum System** - Following the conclusions of the European Council, the year 2012 remains the deadline for the completion of the second phase of the establishment of the Common European Asylum System. To this end, the European Commission has proposed recasts of the three principal Asylum Directives on Reception Conditions, Qualification and Procedures together with recasts of the Regulations underpinning the Dublin II System. Ireland did not opt-in to the proposals to recast the Directives but did opt-in to the proposals on the Dublin System. The proposals are subject to co-decision with the European Parliament and final agreement on the package of proposals is not expected soon.

Citizenship/Long Term Residency

- **Decentralisation** - The new decentralised offices in Tipperary Town is expected to be completed late this year for occupancy in 2012. Decisions for occupancy will arise later in the year.
- **New Citizenship Act** - Issues being considered include a longer residency requirement and language and integration testing.

LAW REFORM	
RELEVANT DIVISIONS AND CONTACTS	
Criminal Law Reform Division	
Civil Law Reform Division	

Note – issues highlighted in red text reflect commitments under the Programme for Government 2011-2016

CRIMINAL LAW

Current List of Bills on Order Paper or nearing publication

Criminal Justice Bill 2011 - The purpose of the Bill is to amend the criminal law to improve certain procedural matters and strengthen Garda investigative powers. The intention is that such improvements will assist in reducing the delays associated with the investigation and prosecution of complex crime, in particular white collar crime. Current Status - drafting being finalised based on proposals approved by outgoing Government.

Criminal Justice (Community Service) (Amendment) Bill 2011 - This Bill will amend the Criminal Justice (Community Service) Act 1983. The primary purpose is to introduce a requirement on a court, before which an offender stands convicted of an offence for which a sentence of up to six months imprisonment would be appropriate, to consider imposing the alternative sentence of a Community Service Order. It was published in January 2011 and was awaiting Second Stage at dissolution.

Criminal Law (Defence and the Dwelling) Bill 2010 - The purpose of the Bill is to clarify and up date the law in relation to the rights of a householder to use legitimate force in the home (and curtilage) in the context of defending themselves against attack from an intruder entering with the intention of committing a criminal act. The Bill was published in August 2010 and was awaiting Committee stage at dissolution.

Spent Convictions Bill 2007 - This Bill is designed to facilitate the rehabilitation of minor offenders, in particular by easing the difficulties in securing employment. It set out the circumstances where details of certain convictions may be withheld. It had completed Second Stage in December 2008 and was awaiting Committee Stage.

Criminal Justice (Forensic Evidence and DNA Database System) Bill 2010 - The Bill's main feature is the establishment of a DNA database. It was published in January 2010 and was awaiting Committee Stage at dissolution.

Legislation under preparation - noteworthy legislation being prepared at present includes –

Criminal Justice (Cybercrime) Bill - The purpose of this Bill, which is at an advanced stage of drafting, is to enable ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime and the transposition of the EU Framework Decision on attacks against Information Systems. Consideration is being given as to whether the terms of a recent EU Draft Directive could be incorporated into the Bill.

Bail Bill - The purpose of the Bail Bill is to consolidate and update bail law and to provide for certain improvements to ensure that the bail regime can operate in as tight and effective a way as possible. The preparation of the Bill includes the examination of the extent to which greater guidance could be given to the courts on the need to protect the public against those who present an unacceptable risk of committing a serious offence if granted bail.

Probation Service Bill - This Bill will provide a modern statement of the law governing the role of the Probation Service in the criminal justice system and will also give effect to the EU Framework Decision on the supervision of probation measures.

Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Bill (No. 1) - This Bill will give effect to criminal law recommendations in the Second Interim Report of the Joint Committee on the Constitutional Amendment on Children (including recommendations of the majority of members, where agreement not achieved). A draft General Scheme has been completed. The Bill reduces age of consent from 17 to 16, introduces more objective test in relation to defences for defendants, strengthens offences by persons in authority, amends the criminal evidence act to make court proceedings less intimidating for children, and amends the law on incest to address a gender anomaly in sentencing - currently maximum sentence for males is life compared to 7 years for females. A draft memorandum for Government seeking approval to draft the Bill was circulated (14 January) to interested Departments.

Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) (No. 2) Bill - This is a wider Bill to provide further protections to vulnerable persons against sexual abuse and exploitation, including amendments to the Sex Offenders Act 2001 (e.g., risk assessment, disclosure of information to the public, amendments to strengthen provisions relating to civil sex offender orders).

CIVIL LAW


At the time of dissolution of the Dáil the Department had responsibility for a total of 7 Civil Law Bills (a list is attached) on the Dáil and Seanad Order Papers.

Government decisions (usually arranged by the Office of the Chief Whip in consultation with Departments) will be necessary to restore Bills to the Dáil and Seanad Order Papers. The Minister's approval, based on separate submissions from the relevant Divisions in the Department, will be required to arrange for restoration of the Department's Bills.

A list of Civil Law Bills (11) at other stages, being drafted by Parliamentary Counsel or, in respect of which heads are being developed in the Department, is also attached.

Notes on certain of the Bills are as follows:

Civil Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill – This Bill was presented to the Dáil in August 2010 and Second Stage commenced, but was not completed. It contains provisions on a number of issues including enforcement of maintenance orders, power to the Private Security Services Authority to engage persons on contract, **improvements in the efficiency of the courts, some changes in bankruptcy law**, and, changes in the civil liability of Good Samaritans.



Property Services (Regulation) Bill 2009 - Restoration of the Bill, already passed by the Seanad and awaiting Committee Stage, would enable the Bill to be enacted soon. As well as regulating auctioneers and letting and property management agents it will provide, by way of amendments which have been drafted, publication of residential property prices and a database of rents in the commercial sector. The Bill would also allow the Property Services Regulatory Authority (already established on an interim basis) to assume full powers.

Immigration, Residence and Protection Bill 2010 – This Bill was presented to the Dáil in June 2010 and a good deal of Committee Stage has been completed. The Bill is now as complete and as comprehensive as possible consistent with requirements under the EU and ECHR. It replaces law dating from 1935 (the Aliens Act) and provides a single code of law on entry to and presence of foreign nationals in the State. It will make management and administration of the asylum and immigration system more efficient, effective and economic. The 2010 Bill together with the 2007 and 2008 versions have been extensively debated and few issues remain to be settled in both Houses.

Bills expected to be ready for publication in the new Session

Criminal Justice (Legal Aid) Bill – This Bill provides for (a) transfer of responsibility for management and administration of criminal legal aid from the Department to the Legal Aid Board and (b) stronger regulation of the scheme of criminal legal aid.

Mental Capacity Bill - This Bill, in the course of being drafted for some time, will extensively modernise the law on mental capacity and replace the Wards of Court system. The Bill will facilitate ratification of the UN Convention on Disability.

Bills being drafted


Sale of Alcohol Bill - This Bill which has also been in the course of being drafted for some time will modernise and streamline the law relating to the sale of alcohol with a view to improved efficiency and more effective enforcement. It will replace the Licensing Acts 1833 to 2010 and the Registration of Clubs Acts 1904 to 2008.

Priority Bills in respect of which heads are being developed in the Department

Legal Services Bill (previously entitled as the Legal Costs Bill) –

The Bill is intended as a response to the commitment under the EU/IMF Programme of Financial Support for Ireland on legal costs and regulation of the legal professions. The "legislative changes" are required by Q3/2011. They will take into account the recommendations of the Competition Authority and the Legal Costs Working Group.

Personal Insolvency Bill - [REDACTED] The Bill is also intended as a response to a commitment under the EU/IMF Programme to reform the bankruptcy regime. The deadline for presentation of a Bill under the EU/IMF Programme is Q. 1/2012. The Bill will take into account recommendations of the Law Reform Commission for a new framework for settlement and enforcement of debt and for personal insolvency.

BUSINESS DELIVERY	
RELEVANT DIVISIONS AND CONTACTS	
Casino Gaming Control Section Corporate Affairs Financial Shared Services Financial Management Unit Human Resources Internal Audit IT Minister's Office Minister of State's Office Organisation Development Unit Procurement Strategy Group Secretary General's Office	 These Divisions deal primarily with the administration of the Department

Key Issues

Finance

- **Budgets** - We have a very challenging financial position across all the Votes. Instructions have been issued to all Cost Centres that only absolutely essential expenditure should be incurred in 2011 and that no large items of "new" expenditure (over €50,000) should be incurred unless it is first cleared by the Departments Financial Management Committee (FMC) which meets monthly. These meetings are attended by the Finance Directors from the principal Justice agencies, senior finance personnel from the Department and are chaired by the Assistant Secretary with responsibility for finance
- **Shared Services** - The Department has already created an operational model to roll out shared financial and payroll services across all Government Departments and Offices. The Killarney Financial Shared Services Centre provides such services for all Justice Sector organisations and for a number of other Departments and Agencies, including the Department of the Taoiseach. Service provision is governed by a comprehensive range of performance management and customer service systems. Based on its practical experience in this area, the Department made proposals in December 2009 to the Transforming Public Services Cabinet sub-Committee for the wider use of shared financial services in the Civil Service.

Public Service (Croke Park) Agreement - Driving and monitoring implementation across the Sector (see 'Managing the Mandate').

ICT


- Expansion of IT shared service to include the Probation Service and the Irish Prison Service (potentially more than doubling the size of the service and further reducing duplication of back office services). It makes extensive use of an outsourced support – e.g. no servers on Departmental premises. Preparations to tender for this are at an advanced stage.



- Criminal Justice Integration Project (CJIP) to set up a centralised facility for the sharing of information between the criminal justice agencies (Garda Síochána, Courts Service, Irish Prison Service).
- Asylum & Immigration Strategic Integration Programme (AISIP) to provide an integrated IT system for the provision of integrated document, case and accommodation management services to the Irish Naturalisation & Immigration Service (INIS).

Procurement - There is a high level of collaboration within the Justice Sector and with the National Procurement Service. Government policy on a shared service for Procurement will also impact on this area.

Casino/Gaming Control

- *Options for Regulating Gambling* offers a certain roadmap in terms of best regulatory practice that could be accommodated in a new legislative vehicle, should that be the wish of the Government. The document takes as its starting point the Report of the Casino Committee, *Regulating Gaming in Ireland* (2009) and envisages the proposed introduction of a unified regulator for gambling to be the Department of Justice and Law Reform. Based on the principles that young people and the vulnerable are protected, that gambling should in all respects be fairly and openly conducted, and that gambling is kept free of crime, the proposed options would also provide for remote gambling i.e. gambling via telephone, mobile phones, internet and interactive TV).
 - The specific issue of casinos, most particularly whether large-scale resort casinos would be permitted.
 - The continuation of assistance being given by an official of Casino Gaming Control Section to the Department of Finance in amending the Betting Act 1931 in an effort to regulate internet and other forms of remote betting. While the Betting (Amendment) Bill 2011 can be published by the Minister for Finance, it cannot be progressed through the Houses, during the 3 month mandatory standstill period imposed under Directive 98/48. (An amendment to the Betting Act 1931 to provide a licensing system for internet betting would, as a technical amendment, need to be notified in advance to the Commission under Directive 98/34/EC, as amended by Directive 98/48).
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APPENDICES

- 1. Department Organisation Chart**
- 2. Contact Details - Management Advisory Committee (MAC)**
- 3. Contact Details – Heads of Divisions**
- 4. Justice Sector Organisations**
- 5. Legislative Programme – Civil Law**
- 6. [REDACTED]**

APPENDIX 5 CIVIL LAW LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMME

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND LAW REFORM			25 February 2011
1. Civil Law Bills on Dáil and Seanad Order Paper prior to dissolution of Dáil (7)			
	Title	Present Status	
1	Tribunals of Inquiry Bill 2005	Presented to Dáil on 25 November 2005. Dáil Second Stage completed on 6 November 2008. Committee Stage completed on 2 April 2009. Awaiting Report Stage.	
2	Privacy Bill 2006	Presented to Seanad on 7 July 2006. Awaiting Second Stage.	
3	Coroners Bill 2007	Presented to Seanad on 20 April 2007. Second Stage completed on 4 October 2007. Awaiting Committee Stage.	
4	Property Services (Regulation) Bill 2009	Presented to Seanad on 7 May 2009. Passed by Seanad on 3 June 2010. Dáil Second Stage completed on 10 November. Awaiting Committee Stage	
5	Immigration, Residence and Protection Bill 2010	Presented to Dáil on 29 June 2010. Second Stage completed on 6 October. Committee Stage commenced on 5 November 2010 and resumed on 12 and 16 November. Awaiting resumption of Committee Stage.	
6	Civil Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2010	Presented to Dáil on 26 August 2010. Second Stage commenced on 4 November 2010. Awaiting resumption of Second Stage.	
7	Jurisdiction of Courts and Enforcement of Judgments Bill	Presented to Seanad on 8 February 2011. Awaiting Second Stage	

Note: The information hereunder is based on the best assessment which can be made at present. However, the assessment is inevitably imprecise because of the nature of the work involved, other variable work commitments and factors outside the control of the Department. The expected date of submission of the text of a Bill to Government is, of course, also subject to the priority afforded the particular measure in the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel.

A. – Civil Law Bills ready for publication during the Spring Session (2)

Number and Title	Purpose	Present Status	No. Of Heads	Whether Legislation Promised	Expected date of submission of General Scheme/ Heads to Government for approval.	Expected date of submission of text to Government and Publication
[1 Criminal Justice (Legal Aid) Bill]	To provide for amendment of the Criminal Justice (Legal Aid) Act 1962			Included in previous Government's Legislative Programme.		
[2] Mental Capacity Bill	To reform the law on mental capacity (taking into account the Law Reform Commission's Report on Vulnerable Adults and the Law).			Included in previous Government's Legislative Programme.		


			Present Status	No. Of Heads	Whether Legislation Promised	Expected date of submission of General Scheme/ Heads to Government for approval.	Expected date of submission of text to Government and Publication

B. -- Civil Law Bills in respect of which heads were agreed and texts are being drafted (2)

Number and Title	Purpose	Present Status	No. Of Heads	Whether Legislation Promised	Expected date of submission of General Scheme/ Heads to Government for approval.	Expected date of submission of text to Government and Publication
[3] Sale of Alcohol Bill	To codify the law relating to the sale and consumption of alcohol.			Included in previous Government's Legislative Programme.		
[4] Judicial Council Bill	To provide effective remedies for complaints about judicial misbehaviour including lay participation in the investigation of the complaints			Included in previous Government's Legislative Programme.		

C. – Civil Law Bills in respect of which heads have yet to be approved by Government (7)

Number and Title	Purpose	Present Status	No. Of Heads	Whether Legislation Promised	Expected date of submission of General Scheme/ Heads to Government for approval.	Expected date of submission of text to Government and Publication
[5] Legal Services Bill (previously entitled Legal Costs Bill)	To provide for (a) regulation of the legal professions and (b) regulation and assessment of legal costs (to give effect to Report of Competition Authority and Report of Legal Costs Working Group).			Included in previous Government's Legislative Programme and EU/IMF Programme.		
[6] Landlord and Tenant Bill	To reform and consolidate the law on landlords & tenants.			Included in previous Government's Legislative Programme.		
[7] Trusts Bill	To reform and consolidate the law relating to trustees so as to deal better with and protect trust assets.			Included in previous Government's Legislative Programme.		
[8] Mediation and Conciliation Bill	To provide for implementation of recommendations of the Law Reform Commission.			Not in Government programme.		
[9] Family Law Bill	To make provision for pension adjustments in the context of separation agreements and certain other reforms of family law.			Included in previous Government's Legislative Programme.		

Number and Title	Purpose	Present Status
[10] Courts (Consolidation and Reform) Bill	To provide for implementation of recommendations of the Law Reform Commission	
[11] Personal Insolvency Bill	To provide for a new framework for settlement and enforcement of debt and for personal insolvency.	

	No. Of Heads	Whether Legislation Promised	Expected date of submission of General Scheme/ Heads to Government for approval.	Expected date of submission of text to Government and Publication
		Not in previous Government's programme		
		Included in EU/IMF Programme		

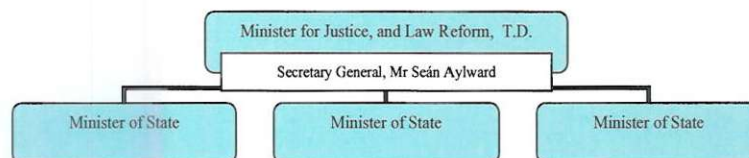
FOI Request

Reasons for Deletions.

Deletion in Document	Reasons for deletion	Relevant Section in Act
Courts Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 18 - Par 2,3,4,6,8,9,10 	Details are part of the deliberative process.	Section 20
Prisons and Probation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 19 -Par 2 Page 19 - Par 3 Page 20 - Par 1 Page 20 – Par 2 	Still under consideration or anticipated. Security of a Penal Institution Still under consideration or anticipated Still under consideration or anticipated	Section 20 Section 20, Section 23(1)(a)(v), Section 21(c) Section 20 Section 20
Civil Law Reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 29 - Par 4 Page 30 – Par 4,5 	Details are part of the deliberative process. Details are part of the deliberative process.	Section 20 (1) Section 20 (1)
Mutual Assistance and Extradition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 13 	Material obtained in confidence	Section 20 (1)(a)
Firearms, Explosives and Private Security. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 15 – Par 1 Page 16- Par 4 Page 16 – Par 2 	Functions and negotiations of public bodies. Security reasons Part of the deliberative process	Section 21(1)(c) Section 24 (1) Section 20
Crime 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 10 – Par XX Page 11 – Par 1 	Details are part of the deliberative process. Prevention of fairness in criminal proceedings. Material received in confidence.	Sections 20(1), 23(1)(a)(i), 23(1)(iv), 26(1)(a)
Anti Human Trafficking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 13 – Par 2 	Details are part of the deliberative process.	Section 20(1)
Security and Northern Ireland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 7 – Par 2 	The prevention, detection	Section 23(1)(a)(i)

	<p>or investigation of offences, the apprehension or prosecution of offenders or the effectiveness of lawful methods, systems, plans or procedures employed for the purposes of the matters aforesaid.</p> <p>Lawful methods, systems, plans or procedures for ensuring the safety of the public and the safety or security of persons and property.</p> <p>The Security of the State.</p>	<p>Section 23(1)(a)(iii)</p> <p>Section 24(1)(a)</p>
Garda Division <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 9 – Par 6 	Details are part of the deliberative process.	Section 20
INIS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 24 – Par 1 Page 24 – Par 6 Page 24 – Par 8 Page 25 – Par 2, 4, 7 Page 26 – Par 2,4 Page 26 – Par 6, 11 	<p>Law enforcement and public safety. Personal Information.</p> <p>Information obtained in confidence</p> <p>Security, defence and international relations.</p> <p>Part of the deliberative process.</p> <p>Functions and negotiations of public bodies</p> <p>Part of the deliberative process. Functions and negotiations of public bodies</p> <p>Security, defence and international relations.</p> <p>Security, defence and international relations.</p>	<p>Section 23, 28</p> <p>Section 26</p> <p>Section 24</p> <p>Section 20, 21</p> <p>Section 20, 21</p> <p>Section 24</p> <p>Section 24</p>
Coroner's Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 21 – Par 1 	Part of the deliberative process.	Section 20
Business Delivery - ICT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page 31 	Part of the deliberative process.	Section 20
Casino/Gaming Control		

• Page 32- Par 1,4	Part of the deliberative process.	Section 20
Appendix 5	Part of the deliberative process.	Section 20
Appendix 6	Part of the deliberative process.	Section 20



Supporting An Garda Síochána and Tackling Crime	Developing Justice Services	Provision of Immigration and Related Services	Promotion of a Secure and Peaceful Society	Law Reform	Business Delivery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Garda Division •Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Unit •Crime 1 •Crime 2 (Drugs and Organised Crime) •Crime 4 (Firearms & Explosives) •Mutual Assistance & Extradition •Anti Human Trafficking Unit •International Policy Division •White Paper on Crime Unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Prisons & Probation Policy • Courts Policy •Casino Gaming Control Section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Immigration ➤ Visa ➤ Citizenship ➤ Repatriation ➤ Asylum • Reception & Integration Agency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Crime 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Criminal Law Reform •Civil Law Reform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Corporate Affairs •Financial Shared Services Centre •Financial Management Unit •IT •Human Resources •Organisation Development Unit •Press & Communications •FOI •Internal Audit •Procurement Strategy Group •Coroners Service Implementation Unit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Garda Síochána • Garda Inspectorate • Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission • Cosc- the National Office for the Prevention of Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence • Forensic Science Laboratory • Private Security Authority • State Pathology Service • Office for Internet Safety • Victims of Crime Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irish Prison Service • Courts Service • Probation Service • Irish Youth Justice Service • Parole Board • Mental Health (Criminal Law) Review Board • Legal Aid Board • National Property Services Regulatory Authority • Office of the Inspector of Prisons • Irish Film Classification Office • Censorship of Publications Board • Office of the Data Protection Commissioner • Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal • Property Registration Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Office of the Refugee Applications Commissioner •Refugee Appeals Tribunal 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal Law Codification Advisory Committee 	

Contact Details for MAC Members

MAC Member	Area of Responsibility	Divisions/Sections in this area	Contact Address	Telephone Number	Email
	Criminal Law Reform Prisons and Probation Policy	Criminal Law Reform Prisons and Probation Policy	Montague Court Montague Street Dublin 2		
	Civil Law Reform Courts Policy	Civil Law Reform Courts Policy	Bishop's Square Redmond's Hill Dublin 2		
	Crime Security and Northern Ireland	Crime 1 Crime 2 (Drugs) Crime 3 (Security & NI) Crime 4 (Firearms & explosives) Mutual Assistance & Extradition White Paper on Crime Unit Anti Money Laundering Compliance Unit Mental Health (Criminal Law) Review Board	94 St Stephen's Green Dublin 2		
	Garda	Garda Divisions: Accountability and Performance Finances and Resources Human Resources Policy	51 St Stephen's Green Dublin 2		
	International Policy	International Policy	Montague Court Montague Street Dublin 2		
	Business Support	Human Resources Div Organisation Development Unit Corporate Affairs IT	51 St Stephen's Green Dublin 2		

		Financial Shared Services Financial Management Unit (FMU) Procurement Strategy Group Internal Audit Minister's Office Minister of State's Office Press Office Victims of Crime Office Coroners Service Implementation Team Casino Gaming Control Section Office for Internet Safety			
	INIS	Asylum Policy Citizenship EU Treaty Rights General Immigration IBC Unit Immigration Control and Investigations Unit Immigration and Citizenship Policy Long Term Residency Repatriation Shared Services Visa Division	13/14 Burgh Quay Dublin 2	01 6167649	
	Reception and Integration Agency	Reception and Integration Agency	Bishop's Square Redmond's Hill Dublin 2		
	Irish Youth Justice Service	Irish Youth Justice Service	Montague Court Montague Street Dublin 2		
	Irish Prison Service	Irish Prison Service	IDA Business Park Ballinalee Road Longford		

	Cosc	Cosc -The National Office for the Prevention of Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence	Montague Court Montague Street Dublin 2		
	Anti Human Trafficking Unit	Anti Human Trafficking Unit	51 St Stephen's Green Dublin 2		
	Secretary to MAC	Human Resources Division	51 St Stephen's Green Dublin 2		

Contact Details for Heads of Divisions

Areas of Department	Divisions/Sections	Contact Address	Principal Officers	Telephone Number	Email Address
Civil Law Reform & Courts Policy	Civil Law Reform	Bishop's Square, Redmond's Hill, Dublin 2.	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Courts Policy	51 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Criminal Law Reform	Criminal Law Reform/Legislation	Montague Court, Montague Street, Dublin 2.	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Crime	Crime 1	94 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Crime 2 (Drugs & Organised Crime)	94 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Crime 3 (Security & Northern Ireland)	94 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Crime 4 (Firearms & Explosives)	94 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Mutual Assistance & Extradition	Harcourt Centre, Harcourt Street, Dublin 2.	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Anti-Human Trafficking Unit	51 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Crime cont.	Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Unit	Bishop's Square, Redmond's Hill, Dublin 2.	
	White Paper on Crime Unit	94 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	
Garda Division	Accountability & Performance	51 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	
	Finance & Resources	51 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	
	Human Resources Policy	51 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	
Prisons & Probation Policy	Prisons & Probation Policy	Montague Court, Montague Street, Dublin 2.	
International Policy Division	International Policy	Montague Court, Montague Street, Dublin 2.	
Business Support	Corporate Affairs	51 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	
	Coroners Service	Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, Johnstown, Navan, Co. Meath.	
	Casino Gaming Control Section	Bishop's Square, Redmond's Hill, Dublin 2.	
	Financial Shared Services	Deerpark Road, Killarney, Co. Kerry.	

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Business Support cont.	Financial Services	Deerpark Road, Killarney, Co. Kerry.	
	HQ Financial Management Unit	51 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	
	Human Resources Division	51 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	
	Internal Audit Division	51 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	
	Office for Internet Safety	Harcourt Centre, Harcourt Street, Dublin 2.	
	Organisation Development Unit	51 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	
	Procurement Strategy Group	51 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	
	Victims of Crime Office	51 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	
	Minister's Office	94 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	
	Minister's Press Office	94 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	
Irish Naturalisation & Immigration Service (INIS)	Minister of State's Office		
	Asylum Policy	13/14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2.	
	Citizenship	Dundrum Road, Tipperary Town, Co. Tipperary.	

[illegible]

<i>INIS contd.</i>	Long Term Residency	Chapter House 26/30 Upper Abbey St, Dublin 1.	
	EU Treaty Rights	13/14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2.	
	Visa Division	13/14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2.	
	General Immigration	13/14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2. Chapter House 26/30 Upper Abbey St, Dublin 1.	
	Immigration & Citizenship Policy	13/14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2.	
	Repatriation	13/14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2. Chapter House 26/30 Upper Abbey St, Dublin 1.	
	Shared Services	13/14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2.	
Reception & Integration Agency	Reception & Integration Agency	Bishop's Square, Redmond's Hill, Dublin 2.	
The National Office for the Prevention of Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence (COSC)	The National Office for the Prevention of Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence (COSC)	Montague Court, Montague Street, Dublin 2.	

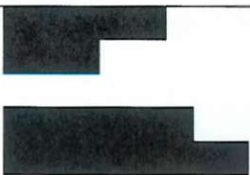
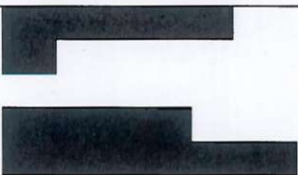
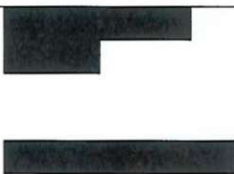
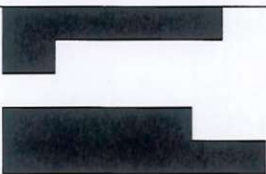
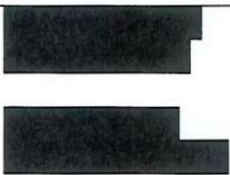
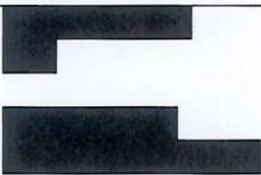
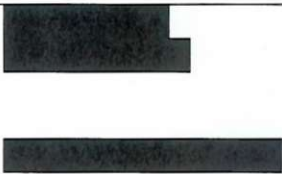
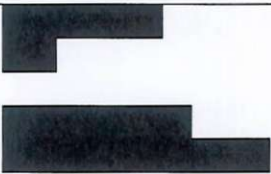
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Irish Youth Justice Service (IYJS)	Irish Youth Justice Service (IYJS)	Montague Court, Montague Street, Dublin 2.	
	Irish Youth Justice Service (IYJS)/Community Programmes	2 Clonmel Street, Dublin 2.	


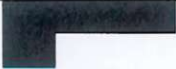



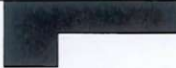



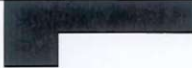

Justice Sector Organisations

Name of Organisation	About the Organisation	Address	Executive Head of Organisation	Contact Person:
An Garda Síochána	An Garda Síochána is the national police service of Ireland. The Mission of An Garda Síochána is Working with Communities to Protect and Serve . Following the establishment of the Irish Free State in 1922, the Dublin Metropolitan Police merged with the recently established An Garda Síochána in 1925. Today, An Garda Síochána is a community based organisation with over 14,500 Garda and Civilian employees, who serve all sections of the community.	Garda H.Q. Phoenix Park, Dublin 8.	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Garda Síochána Inspectorate	The objective of the Garda Síochána Inspectorate is to ensure that the resources available to the Garda Síochána are used so as to achieve and maintain the highest levels of efficiency and effectiveness in its operation and administration, as measured by reference to the best standards of comparable police services.	87 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission (GSOC)	The GSOC is an independent statutory body. It was established under the Garda Síochána Act 2005 which involved very significant legislative changes for policing in Ireland. The Ombudsman Commission, under the Act, is required and empowered to; - directly and independently investigate complaints against members of An Garda Síochána, - investigate any matter even where no complaint has been made, where it appears that a Garda may have committed an offence or behaved in any way that would justify disciplinary proceedings, - investigate any practise, policy or procedure of An Garda Síochána with a view to reducing the incidence of related complaints.	150 Upper Abbey St, Dublin 1.	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Cosc (The National Office for the Prevention of Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence)	Cosc is an Irish word and means “to stop” or “to prevent”. Following a Government decision, Cosc was established in June 2007 with the key responsibility to ensure the delivery of a well co-ordinated “whole of Government” response to domestic, sexual and gender-based violence. The work of Cosc covers issues relating to domestic and sexual violence against women and men, including older people in the community.	Montague Court, Montague St, Dublin 2.
Forensic Science Laboratory	The Forensic Science Laboratory was established in 1975 to provide impartial scientific evidence following examination of items from crime scenes. Its mission as set out in its strategy statement is to “assist in the investigation of crime to service the administration of Justice in an effective manner by a highly trained and dedicated staff providing scientific analysis and objective expert advice to international standards”.	Garda H.Q. Phoenix Park, Dublin 8.
Private Security Authority (PSA)	The PSA is the regulatory body for the private security industry in Ireland. It was established under the Private Security Services Act 2004. The industry employs 20,000 people across a broad range of sectors and has an estimated annual turnover in excess of €350 million. The role of the PSA is to improve and maintain standards in the provision of security services in the State by operating a standards-based licensing system.	Davis Street, Tipperary Town, Co. Tipperary.
Courts Service	The Courts Service was established as an independent corporate organisation on the 9 th of November 1999, following the enactment of the Courts Service Act 1998. Its mission is “to manage the courts, support the judiciary and provide a high-quality and professional service to all users of the courts”.	Phoenix St North, Smithfield, Dublin 7.

State Pathologist's Office	The function of the State Pathologist's Office is to provide independent expert advice on matters relating to forensic pathology and to perform post-mortem examinations in those cases where foul play is suspected ('State cases'). This function includes providing post-mortem reports to the relevant coroner in appropriate instances, as well as attendance at coroners' inquests and at any Court proceedings arising out of the Garda investigation into a death. The Office also provides advice to coroners on cases which are not the subject of a criminal investigation but which nevertheless give rise to complex questions of forensic pathology.	Fire Brigade Training Centre, Malahide Road, Marino, Dublin 3.
Irish Prison Service	The Irish Prison Service is an executive agency of the Department of Justice and Law Reform. It deals with male offenders who are 16 years of age or over and female offenders who are 17 years of age or over. The mission of the Irish Prison Service is to provide safe, secure and humane custody for people who are sent to prison. The Service is committed to managing custodial sentences in a way which encourages and supports prisoners in their endeavouring to live law abiding and purposeful lives as valued members of society.	IDA Business Park, Ballinalee Road, Longford, Co. Longford.
Probation Service	The Probation Service is the lead agency in the assessment and management of offenders in our communities. On behalf of the Department of Justice & Law Reform and in conjunction with the Courts Service, the Irish Prison Service, An Garda Síochána and the wider community, they provide high quality assessment of offenders and a professional and effective management of services and supports to bring about positive change in the behaviour of offenders.	Athlumney House, IDA Business Park, Johnstown, Navan, Co. Meath.

Irish Youth Justice Service (IYJS)	<p>The IYJS is responsible for leading and driving reform in the area of youth justice. The Service is also responsible for the management and development of children detention facilities. Their remit is to improve the delivery of youth justice services and reduce youth offending. Working with the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, the IYJS is guided by the principles of the Children Act 2001. The IYJS funds organisations and projects providing services, including Garda & Probation Projects, to young people aged under 18 years, who find themselves in conflict with the Law.</p>	<p>Montague Court, Montague St, Dublin 2.</p>
Parole Board	<p>The Parole Board, which replaced the Sentence Review Group, was established on an administrative basis in April 2001. The Board's principal function is to advise the Minister for Justice & Law Reform in relation to the administration of long-term prison sentences.</p>	<p>31-35 Bow St, Dublin 7.</p>
Legal Aid Board	<p>The Legal Aid Board has been in existence since 1979 and was set up as a statutory body on foot of the Civil Legal Aid Act 1995. The Board's mission is "To provide a professional, efficient, cost-effective and accessible legal aid and advice service".</p>	<p>Head Office, Quay St Cahirciveen, Co. Kerry.</p> <p>Dublin Office, 47 Upper Mount St, Dublin 2.</p>
National Property Services Regulatory Authority (NPSRA)	<p>The main functions of the NPSRA are to; - operate a comprehensive licensing system covering all providers of property services, - set and enforce standards for the grant of licences and provision of services, - establish a system of investigation and adjudication of complaints, - promote increased consumer protection and public awareness and - establish a Compensation Fund to compensate parties who lose money as a consequence of the dishonesty of a licensee.</p>	<p>Abbey Buildings, Abbey Road, Navan, Co. Meath.</p>

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Office of the Inspector of Prisons	The Office of the Inspector of Prisons is a statutory, independent office established under the Prisons Act 2007. The key role assigned to the Inspector is to carry out regular inspections of the 14 Prisons in the State and to present his report(s) on each institution inspected as well as an Annual Report to the Minister for Justice and Law Reform.	24 Cecil Walk, Kenyon St, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary.
Office of the Refugee Applications Commissioner (ORAC)	ORAC is the first instance decision making body in the Irish asylum system, established under the Refugee Act, 1996 (as amended). Under this Act, the Commissioner is required to investigate each asylum application lodged within the State and to make a recommendation to the Minister for Justice & Law Reform. He / she is also responsible for investigating applications by refugees to allow family members to enter/reside in the State and providing a report to the Minister on such applications. The Commissioner is independent in the exercise of his or her functions.	79-83 Lwr Mount St, Dublin 2.
Refugee Appeals Tribunal (RAT)	The Refugee Appeals Tribunal was established on 4 October, 2000 in accordance with Sections 14 and 15 of the Refugee Act 1996 and decides appeals of those asylum seekers whose applications for refugee status have not been recommended by the Officer of the Refugee Applications Commissioner.	6-7 Hanover St, Dublin 2.
Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service (INIS)	The INIS was established in 2005 in order to provide a 'one stop shop' in relation to asylum, immigration, citizenship and visas. The INIS is responsible for administering the administrative functions of the Minister for Justice & Law Reform in relation to asylum, immigration, citizenship and visa matters. The INIS also facilitates a whole government approach to immigration and asylum issues which enables a more efficient service to be provided in these areas.	13/14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2.

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Irish Film Classification Office (IFCO)	The Director of IFCO is responsible for the implementation of The Censorship of Films Act 1923 and the Video Recordings Act 1989 together with their relevant amendments and S.I.s. This involves the classification of all cinema films and video works for release in the State and the licensing of video outlets. The office now also provides the secretarial duties of The Censorship of Publications Board.	Blackhall Walk, Smithfield, Dublin 7.
Censorship of Publications Board	The Censorship of Publications Board was established under the Censorship of Publications Act 1929. It is an independent board established to examine books and periodicals for sale. The Board may prohibit the sale and distribution of books and periodicals if they are found to be obscene. Any person may make a complaint to the Censorship of Publications Board.	c/o IFCO Blackhall Walk, Smithfield, Dublin 7.
Office of the Data Protection Commission	The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner was established under the Data Protection Act 1988, and the legislation was updated by the Data Protection Amendment Act 2003. The Acts set out the general principle that individuals should be in a position to control how data relating to them is used. The Commissioner is appointed by Government and is independent in exercising the functions of the role. The Commissioner is responsible for upholding the rights of individuals as set out in the Acts and enforcing the obligations upon data controllers.	Canal House, Station Road, Portarlinton, Co. Laois.

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Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal (CICT)	<p>The CICT operates the Scheme of Compensation for Personal Injuries criminally inflicted, introduced in 1974. The Tribunal considers applications from people who suffer a personal injury or death as a result of a crime of violence. Compensation may be awarded on the basis of any vouched out of pocket expenses, including loss of earnings, experienced by the victim or, if the victim has died as a result of the incident, by the dependents of the victim.</p>	13 Lower Hatch St, Dublin 2.
Property Registration Authority (PRA)	<p>The PRA is the registering authority for property in Ireland. It also operates the Ground Rents Purchase Scheme under the Landlord and Tenant Act. The Authority was established on 4th November, 2006 under the provisions of the Registration of Deeds and Title Act 2006 and replaced the Registrar of Deeds and Titles as the Registering Authority. The Authority is independent in the performance of its functions. The members of the Authority are representative of the main users and consumers of property registration services.</p>	Chancery St, Dublin 7.

